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## THE AMERICAN

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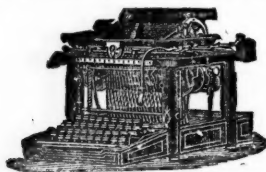
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## REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE death of Hon. Morrison R. Waite, Chief-Justice of the United States, after a very brief illness, is an event of national importance. Judge Waite was a man of undoubted probity, of great amiability of character, and of sterling qualities as a lawyer. He did not, like Marshall and Story, add fresh lustre to the office. In point of legal learning he probably was not the equal of Judges Matthews, Gray, or some others of his colleagues. He was not even the leader of the bench, for he voted with the minority about as often as any other member except Judge Field. But he was a sound lawyer and an honest man, who kept up the great tradition of judicial probity which begins for the English-speaking world with Sir Matthew Hale. His death is universally lamented.

The death of Judge Waite enables President Cleveland to increase the Democratic minority of the court to three members out of nine. Should he be re-elected this year, and there should be the same number of vacancies in his second term as in the first, the court would stand by the end of his term, five Democrats to four Republicans. With so many of the present judges men of advanced years, the probability is very great that a second Democratic administration would be able to shift the balance even farther than this. This consideration furnishes a reason for still more vigorous and united action on the part of Republicans during the coming campaign. Very much of the results of the war lies embodied in the interpretations of the Constitution and the laws which the Republican bench has given us. All of these may be reversed by such a bench as Mr. Cleveland or any other Democrat in the White House is likely to give us. It is a higher question than that of the offices which is pending in the coming campaign. It is the interpretation of the fundamental law in harmony with the principles of 1861-65, or else in conformity with the convictions of such judges as Roger B. Taney and L. Q. C. Lamar.

OF the nominations for the vacancy, the strongest name suggested is that of Judge Thomas M. Cooley of Michigan. But he was too recently a Republican to have any chance of consideration. Another Northern man who is mentioned as a probable selection is Mr. Phelps, who is said to be on his way home from England with this contingency in view. There is nothing in his recent exposition of the Constitution for English readers which suggests that he is in any sense Judge Cooley's equal as a jurist. But we judge it is not to the North that the appointment will go. The nearest approach to a northerner that can be expected is Mr. Bayard, whose ambition is known to have lain in this direction. He is named, as also Mr. Garland. Of the two we should prefer the Arkansas man; but his false step in the matter of the Telephone suits excludes him. We do not think that step was a fair expression of Mr. Garland's character. We feel sure that he would be as upright and patriotic a judge as any other Southern Democrat. But the Chief Justice of the United States, the presiding officer of the greatest legal tribunal of the world, should be above even suspicion.

THE Senate has astonished the business people by reviving the greenback question. The House bill to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase bonds with the Surplus at market rates, was reported favorably by the Finance Committee and put upon its passage. But some of the Senators thought this was an admirable chance to get even with the Committee, which they blame for the suppression of all sorts of financial schemes. Senator Plumb led off with an amendment which provides that as fast

as the circulation of the national banks is cancelled by the payment of the bonds which secure it, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue legal tender Treasury notes to the same amount. In spite of spirited opposition from Senator Hiscock this was adopted by a vote of 28 to 21. Then Senator Stewart moved that the Treasury be required to issue gold and silver certificates to depositors of bullion as well as of coin, the value of the silver being determined by the market rates in New York on the first fifteenth of each month. At this writing the Senate has not voted upon this proposal.

Both these amendments are objectionable, in themselves and in their probable effect on the fate of the bill. Mr. Cleveland takes his cue from Wall street too strictly to sign a bill which contains either. The bill to substitute greenbacks for cancelled bank-notes is a bad one because it substitutes an objectionable remedy for an evil that should be corrected in some better way. Of course we cannot go on with the cancellation of the bank-note currency without finding any substitute. But that substitute should not be found in Treasury notes. To concentrate all the issues of paper-money in the Treasury and its sub-treasuries would be to increase the evils of our monetary centralization to a frightful degree. It would wipe out the majority of the country banks and thus make the small centres of circulation and trade even more dependent on the great than they now are. And it would give the Treasury a power over the business of the country which some unscrupulous financier might use to the great damage of the nation.

The silver proposal would enable the owners of bullion to convert their metal into money even more swiftly than if we were to enact Mr. Bland's bill for free coinage of silver on government account. It differs from that only in not attempting to fix a ratio between gold and silver. It leaves the metal to fluctuate in the issue of Treasury notes as it does in the market. But suppose a great "Silver Trust" were to obtain such a control of the market as to force silver up to a nominally high price, at the first of the month; even though they found no genuine private purchases they could make sales to have the price registered. Then they could unload their whole stock upon the Treasury at this rate in the fortnight following, and leave the government as badly clogged with useless silver as Germany has been for the past ten years. A bigger bid for concerted fraud has not been made in any legislation proposed in our time.

Silver, be it remembered, has been falling steadily in value. It took just one ounce more of silver to buy an ounce of gold in 1885 than it did when we began the coinage of standard silver dollars. There was a slight rise after that, but it did not continue. Since 1881 the fall has been almost continuous. But the owners of silver could transfer the losses caused by depreciation from themselves to the nation. If silver ever should rise in value the country would gain nothing; its silver would be the property of holders of certificates. If it fell, it would lose, as they never would call for it. Why do this for silver and not for the owners of pig-iron?

THE text of the new treaty with China appeared in the New York Tribune of Wednesday, although the Senate has not removed the restriction upon its publication. There is nothing either in the document itself or in the public concern about the question, which called for any violation of official propriety in its premature publication. Nor do we suppose that much trouble was taken to secure it. But the incident furnishes one more illustration of the thinness of the veil with which the Senate professes to keep a part of its proceedings from the public.

The new treaty differs from the old one in three important respects: (1.) It specifies a term of twenty years for the further

exclusion of Chinese laborers as immigrants. (2.) It prescribes much stricter regulations to ascertain the identity of those who go back to China for a time, and yet would retain the right to return to America. (3.) It provides for the payment of an indemnity of \$276,619 for injuries done to Chinese residents of the United States, but without conceding our strict legal obligation to pay this sum. On the whole, the treaty is the least objectionable piece of work Mr. Bayard has sent to the Senate, and the one most likely to obtain speedy ratification. Nor will it be discredited to any large part of the public by the information that Mr. Denis Kearney is very much opposed to it, and has gone back to California in high dudgeon with Mr. Cleveland and his Secretary of State. Mr. Denis Kearney is to the Pacific Coast what Mr. O'Donovan Rossa is to the Atlantic. It would excite great doubts of the wisdom and justice of any diplomatic measure, to find either of these gentlemen supporting it.

THE Ways and Means Committee by a party vote has ordered Mr. Mills to report its new revenue bill to the House; but the consideration of the measure has been delayed by his serious illness. He has taken so much to heart the rain of sharp and severe criticism with which his measure has been received that he is suffering from nervous prostration to an extent which alarms his friends. Of course we are sorry for Mr. Mills, but we do not see how this can be helped. The man who makes himself sponsor for a revenue bill which would endanger the daily bread of millions of his countrymen, and put in peril billions of invested capital, should be provided with a very strong nervous system. And perhaps the worst strain upon its powers of endurance will not come before the measure is reported to the House.

Some alarm was caused among the Democrats who agreed with Mr. Randall by the announcement that Mr. Ermentrout, of the Baks district of this State, had gone over to the Free Traders. It now appears that the rumor was exaggerated. Mr. Ermentrout probably is in some anxiety as to his political future. The change made in that district when the State was redistricted by the last legislature gives him some powerful rivals for the nomination. With so strong a Democratic constituency, a regular nomination is equivalent to an election, but it is somewhat questionable whether Mr. Ermentrout or Mr. Sowden, of Lehigh, will be able to capture it. Under these circumstances, it would be very convenient for Mr. Ermentrout to have the active support of the office-holders, which he hardly will get if he goes counter to the wishes of the great dispenser of official favors. So he has been got to go so far as to pledge himself not to vote against consideration, but he professes not to have committed himself to voting for the bill as it stands. The incident is significant only as showing how intense is the pressure from the White House upon the members of the House in favor of Mr. Mills's revenue bill. The pressure employed in favor of the Kansas-Nebraska bill by President Pierce, and the Lecompton Constitution bill, by President Buchanan, is seen once more. Thus far the canvass shows that about a dozen votes are needed to secure it a majority. Certainly no stone will be left unturned to secure that dozen.

Some Republicans are of the opinion that the situation demands a cordial support of Mr. Randall's bill to counteract these tactics of the White House. No doubt Mr. Randall is very desirous of having them think so. But we see no logical nexus between the two things. The considerations employed to detach members from Mr. Randall are entirely independent of the question of Republican support for that measure. Indeed in so far as they are not of a purely material character, they would be reinforced by any appearance of an alliance or coöperation of the Republicans and Mr. Randall. It would be alleged that his has become the Republican bill, and that loyalty to the party required every sound Democrat to support that of the Committee of Ways and Means.

THE appropriation bills are slow in making their appearance in the House. This is probably a part of Mr. Randall's tactics. He means to have a lot of them ready for action, and requiring consideration most urgently, just about the time Mr. Mills gets his revenue bill reported. Thus far nothing but two deficiency bills have made their appearance, and even these were wretchedly inadequate to the needs of the government.

The Committee on Rivers and Harbors has its bill ready, and it appears that the sum asked is about nineteen and a half millions of dollars. Before its details were known, some of the New York newspapers began to attack it as wasteful and dishonest. If it be entirely free from jobs, it will be a better bill than any of its predecessors. But twenty millions is not an extravagant sum to expend on the rivers and harbors of the country. More than half that amount might be expended on the Mississippi alone, and would be if it were an English or German river, and the money could be had. France would go beyond either. After all, the sea coast of the United States is not entirely embraced between Hell Gate and Sandy Hook, nor are the vast appropriations which have been or will yet be made to create an acceptable harbor at New York the only legitimate expenditure of money for such purposes. Let the bill stand on its merits, and criticism will be heard more readily when it is reasonable and not captious or wholesale.

In the hearing before the House Committee on the Judiciary, last week, Mark Twain was very happy in his characterization of the new shape taken by the discussion. He said that so far as he knew, the International Copyright law had (in the past) taken but one form (in respect of the attempts of authors about it) and that had been that there was no party concerned in it or affected by it but "His Majesty," the author. But as the matter stood now, all parties concerned had learned to see that the matter had not stood in that way at all. There were many other people to be considered—the printer, the binder, and publisher—and all these (he understood) were in favor of the Chace-Breckinridge bill. Mr. Putnam reinforced this by showing that the publishers of cheap fiction were agreed with other publishers in desiring the passage of the bill. Delegates from the Typographical Union were also in attendance as its supporters.

CONGRESS has revived once more the policy of John Quincy Adams by calling a congress of representatives of the American governments' to meet at Washington in April, 1889. As this will be the centenary of the organization of the national government under the present Constitution, and as there seems no probability of any other commemoration worthy of the name, the Congress will serve a double purpose. The matters suggested for discussion are continental uniformity in the matter of silver coinage, weights and measures, customs-regulations, extradition of criminals, and patent and copyright laws; also the formation of an American customs-union, the establishment of closer commercial relations, and the adoption of a plan of arbitration between American nations. As only independent states are invited, Canada and certain of the West India islands will have to cut loose from European entanglements, if they are to be admitted.

We fear that the foolish abandonment of a similar proposal by Mr. Arthur's administration will be in the way of any cordial reception for this measure abroad. And the programme of discussion is much too long for any congress to deal with it at one meeting. Not a congress of 1889, but an annual or at least a triennial congress of American States is needed.

The opponents of the proposed Treaty of Arbitration with Great Britain will agree heartily to the application of that principle to our continental relations. We have no need to hand-cuff ourselves against any possibility of our assailing England. Our temptations to aggressive war lie nearer home; and any arrangement which gives our neighbors as much assurance against the renewal of the policy of 1848 as the Monroe Doctrine gives them



against European aggression would be a gain to both us and them. But as to weights and measures, we must protest against any proposal to foist the metric system upon the country under the guise of an international agreement.

THE nature of Democratic "economy" is illustrated in the reduction of salaries and the dismissal of men in the Customs-houses. There is no reason to suppose that the salaries heretofore paid are too high; and good salaries are insurance against complicity with the frauds of dishonest importers. The revenue officers of all those countries which pay low salaries, are certain to recoup themselves by taking bribes. Nor is the number of men now on the staff excessive. In some customs-houses more men are needed if the work is to be done promptly. But last year Mr. Randall and his friends wished to make a record for "economy" with the rural voters, so they cut down the appropriation for this purpose much below what the Secretary of the Treasury and the Collectors of the Ports declared to be desirable. And now, although Congress has been in session for four months, and this deficit has been well known, and the House has had plenty of time to provide for it, nothing has been done. The public business and that of the commercial classes has to suffer, that the Democrats of the House may be accredited with "economy." In no other civilized country is such a spectacle possible. The legislators of no other country credit the people with such arrant stupidity as not to know the difference between "a penny held before the eye and a guinea in the distance,"—as Burke phrases it.

It appears plain that wherever there is a Free Trade Republican newspaper, or one inclined that way, Judge Gresham has a friend. So, too, the Mugwump newspapers of the Free Trade school,—and about all of them belong to it, for that matter,—give him a good word, and berate the Republicans of Indiana for choosing other leadership. The *New York Times* illustrates this; so, too, the *Boston Herald*. And they have reason: in the West, among those who have received the free expression of his views, Judge Gresham has always been known as one professing Free Trade doctrine, and looking forward to its triumph over such futile artifices as Protection. The feelings of his *entourage* are well illustrated by the course of his devoted follower, and official appointee, Mr. Fishback, of Indianapolis, who wrote to the free-lance *News*, of that city, a series of extreme Free Trade communications, addressed to Hon. Stanton J. Peele, the Republican Congressman from that district. In these letters Mr. Fishback poured out the whole chapter of attack upon Protection, doing injury, of course, to the Republican unity in that locality, and materially promoting the election of a Democrat in place of Mr. Peele. We do not say Judge Gresham wrote these letters, but we do say that Mr. Fishback was in such relations to him as to make it morally certain that he did not disapprove them.

THE Senate special committee on Civil Service Reform heard on Wednesday the testimony of Mr. William Dudley Foulke, of Indiana, concerning the manner in which Mr. Cleveland and his subordinates have directed the civil service in that State. The facts of the case have heretofore been alluded to in these columns; briefly stated, as Mr. Foulke said to the Committee, there has been no Civil Service Reform in Indiana. On the contrary, the methods pursued there on the part of the national administration have been those of the most unqualified partisanship. Political considerations have been carefully regarded, and the efficient service of the public has been treated with indifference. It is well that the details have been put upon the record in this formal and official manner; they will furnish an important chapter in the Committee's report. And it is a pity that as much work has not been done in other States, as in Indiana, to analyse and systematically present the facts in regard to the civil service.

THE legislature of Massachusetts has refused to submit the question of biennial rather than annual elections to the vote of the people. It also has voted to confer upon the women of the State the right to vote in local option elections held annually in every town of the State. Also to refuse the division of the town of Beverly about which there was so much scandal last year. It seems that parts of a number of those towns (townships) in Eastern Massachusetts come to be settled up with rich men from Boston and other cities, who wish to be cut loose from the rest and thus freed from the responsibility of contributing to the school and roads of the town at large. Against the formation of "club-towns," as they have been called, it is urged that no such division should take place without the consent of the whole town. If rich men choose to take up their residence in one of the historic, long-established towns of the State, it should be with the understanding that they are to bear their full share of the local burdens. The rich men in part of Beverly thought differently, and to save themselves from taxation for the expenses of any but their own small district, they contributed a considerable corruption fund to secure the division. As a good number of them had withdrawn from the Republican party in 1884 because its candidate was not sufficiently pure to come up to their standard of morals, the discovery of the existence of this fund excited an unusual degree of interest. This year the legislature again refused their request out of regard for the rights of Beverly at large.

THE Crosby High License law now seems to have a very good chance of passing the Senate of New York, as the expressions of opinion from the constituencies have served to stiffen up the weaker Senators. Even the Democracy seems to feel it needful to show some independence of the liquor dealing interest. In spite of the talk about "personal liberty" in the last election, and the denunciation of "sumptuary laws" in the Democratic platform, a bill to permit the saloon to keep open on Sunday commanded only 27 votes in the House, or a trifle over a fourth of the whole number. There is reason to believe that the new legislation of New Jersey and Pennsylvania is exerting a great influence in the public opinion of the State. And especially the vigorous course pursued by the board of judges in Philadelphia has attracted much attention. Yet even before that the *Staats-Zeitung* advised the German voters to accept and support the principle of High License. In our own State, while the Philadelphia judges follow the golden mean in the interpretation and application of the new law, those of some other counties exercise the discretion vested in them variously. In Huntingdon county there were but five applicants for license, and all were refused, so that the law is made prohibitory. Of course if all were men of lawless character, the judges hardly could do otherwise. But this was probably not the case: Huntingdon is simply put into the situation occupied by Washington and other counties in which, for some time past, no licenses have been granted. In Chester county, on the other hand, the judges seem to have exercised no restrictive discretion at all. The number of licenses granted is just the same as last year.

THE British Parliament has rejected Mr. Parnell's Arrears of Rent bill; but *The Irish Times* alleges that Mr. Balfour will bring in one of his own. In this he will put the debt due to the landlords on the same footing as debts generally, and pay them *pro rata* according to the ability of the tenant. In fact his measure will be a tenant's bankruptcy bill, with legal restrictions on the eviction of the bankrupts. Even this would be a great improvement on the law as it stands. In every part of the British Islands the landlord's claim is prior to every other. He can seize the crops, the cattle, and everything else on the land, and other creditors get nothing but what he has left. As a consequence the tenant has no credit, because he can give no security. His purchases of seed, tools, implements, and cattle are limited to the amount of his cash, and in Scotland the tenant often is unable to obtain enough of these to work his farm to the best advantage. A law

that would put the landlord on the same footing with all other creditors would be a great boom to both countries.

It is said that the bill will expressly exclude from its benefits those tenants who had recourse to the "Plan of Campaign." As these, in every instance but one, have secured the reductions they demanded, the exclusion will count for little. The one exception is the Marquis of Clanricarde, whose conduct to his tenants has been so infamous that Mr. Balfour and the other Irish landlords have expressly disclaimed all responsibility for his proceedings. In Ireland he is called "the most vile." It hardly is worth while to make an exception for such a man.

THE bill to establish a better system of local government in England continues to be received in Parliament with a satisfaction which shows how little even the Liberal minority is in touch with the people. Mr. Smalley writes that it is hailed as "broadly democratic" even by the opposition. It is about as "broadly democratic" as the Reform Bill of 1832. Like that it transfers the power from the upper to the middle classes but shuts out artisan and farm-laborer from having any voice in the system. And as the middle classes are the lowest social stratum found in the House of Commons, it enjoys a success and applause recalling those of 1832. But the Reform Bill of 1832 led to the Chartist uprising on behalf of popular rights, and finally this uprising forced the extension of the suffrage in national matters to every householders. And yet, in the present measure, voters competent to elect the imperial parliament are excluded from a voice in the choice of the county and municipal councils.

Even the rate-payers are not to choose the entire membership of these councils. A portion of them are to be selected by the crown, *i. e.*, by the ministry for the time being. To this Mr. Gladstone very properly objects, and he proposes to move an amendment, making the whole elective.

MR. GOSCHEN's budget shows how well he studied national finance under the leadership of Mr. Gladstone, when he still belonged to the Liberal party. Indeed the only two financiers worthy of the name the Tories have had since Peel were men who learnt the art under Peel's greatest friend and disciple. Mr. Goschen was able to show that he had spent less and received more than he had estimated, and that he had on hand a surplus of £2,165,000,—the largest since Mr. Gladstone's surplus of 1874,—the year he went out of office to give the Tories an inning. This increases his balance in hand to £7,438,000, which he means to use in paying off owners of consols, who do not intend to accept the new bonds bearing a lower rate of interest. As the sum is not one per cent. of the amount of the debt now to be converted, Mr. Goschen must feel very sure of his power to force the conversion, unless he has assurances from the London money-lenders.

For the coming year Mr. Goschen expects a still larger surplus, and for this reason he purposes to take a penny from the income-tax, while balancing this by new taxes on pleasure and race horses, the stocks of new companies, and the like. He admitted that his plans were not as magnificent in its handling of the question as Mr. Gladstone's, but he evidently felt satisfied that he had done much better for the Tories than they could had done for themselves. But he also has sanctioned Mr. Gladstone's policy at just the point where Mr. Lecky has assailed it as demagogish. He treats the income-tax,—the one fair tax in the Budget,—as an anomaly to be reduced or even got rid of as fast as the revenues from other taxes will allow. He imposes fresh taxes to be able to reduce that one.

#### PENNSYLVANIA AT CHICAGO.

THE withdrawal of Mr. Blaine essentially changed the relation of Pennsylvania to the Republican national convention. Mr. Blaine's popularity in this State precluded the possibility of the choice of such a delegation to Chicago as would have a majority

in favor of any other candidate. Of the sixty delegates, more than forty would no doubt have been his cordial supporters, and the weight of the State would have been in his favor, as it was in 1884.

But his withdrawal made the situation a clean sheet. Few preferences had been decidedly formed. The anticipation of his candidacy had been so general, in spite of the reasons against it, and of the intimation that he might decline, that with many Republicans it seemed unnecessary to consider other names.

Under the circumstances, Pennsylvania is so situated that she may render a grand service to the Republican party. The delegation from this State ought to be one of representative men. It should be composed of men who can and will exert a useful influence in the convention. The State is free from every complication. It presents no candidate of its own for either of the two high offices, and it is in no way bound, by personal or local ties, to the candidates offered by other States. The judgment to be exercised by its delegates need rest upon no other ground than that of the wisest and best choice for the whole party. As at Chicago, in 1880, when from the many names that were offered, —Seward, Lincoln, Chase, Bates, Cameron, and others,—the selection was made of him who proved himself in the fires of the years that followed the greatest of them all, so it ought to be possible now to choose from among those who will be named in the convention a candidate strong with the people, and strong to serve the nation as its executive,—and in this choice the sixty delegates of Pennsylvania may exercise a powerful influence if they will.

To some extent the delegation is already known. About one-fourth has been elected. The State Convention, in choosing the four delegates at large, will no doubt be obedient to the will of the two Senators from this State and their political associates. It remains to be seen what choice will be made in the separate districts. The selections there should be such as will increase the delegation in force. They should be men who understand for themselves the facts of the national situation, and who will add to the influence which Pennsylvania will bring to bear in the wise treatment of these facts. They should represent, too, something more than the plans of "machine" leadership, or the "orders" which may be sent out by "managers" of the party organization. The delegation needs representatives from every worthy element in the party, and the convention needs a delegation so composed.

So far as the policy and principles of the Republican party are serviceable to the nation, this is a year of public peril. The one term of Mr. Cleveland has done harm to them, but another four years of his administration would do infinitely more. The interests at risk in 1884 were great: this year they are many times multiplied in seriousness. Under such conditions the delegates from Pennsylvania to Chicago are called to do a wise and unselfish work, to look above and beyond small influences, to serve the country rather than any locality, to choose candidates who will again establish a Republican administration of the government.

#### MR. LEA'S HISTORY OF THE INQUISITION.<sup>1</sup>

THIS we understand is to be Mr. Lea's *opus magnum*. His three earlier volumes of studies in mediæval church history were preliminary work. These three on a single theme surpass them in bulk, in importance, and in interest to readers generally.

Mr. Lea is a man whose religious opinions are what one school would call Liberal, and another "negative." A century ago, a history of the Inquisition from a writer occupying that standpoint would have been full of dithyrambic abuse of the ambition of churchmen, and the cruelty of priests, with invocations to the spirit of free thought. On every page it would have been insinuated that inquisitors were monsters devoid of any claim to be reckoned men, and that the creed which was responsible for such atrocities was condemned without appeal at the bar of rea-

<sup>1</sup> A HISTORY OF THE INQUISITION OF THE MIDDLE AGES. By Henry Charles Lea, Author of "An Historical Sketch of Sacerdotal Celibacy," "Superstition and Force," "Studies in Church History." In three volumes. Volume I. Pp. xiv. and 568. Volume II: Pp. x. and 567. New York: Harper & Brothers.



son. But Mr. Lea has absorbed the scientific spirit of the age, and cannot write the history as it would have been written a hundred years ago. He recognizes the limits to personal responsibility in history. He studies the historic background of the Inquisition, and the historic environment of the inquisitor, to ascertain how men of like passions and sympathies with ourselves were brought to do things which excite in us horror and indignation. He does not fail to bestow blame where he thinks it personally deserved; he does not lose sight for an instant of the cruelty and inhumanity of the measures used by churchmen for the extirpation of "heresy." He does not weaken the honor of protestants like Bernard Delicieux, the brave Franciscan who fell a victim to his hostility to the Inquisition, by representing that opposition could be only a personal whim since the Inquisition was a necessity. But he does make the whole matter intelligible to us without supposition that a special race of monsters disguised as men had arisen in the middle ages to torment mankind.

To understand the Inquisition it is necessary to remember that the process of Christianizing the Teutonic and even the Romance peoples of Western Europe did not come to its close when their kings had subjected them to baptism. A huge welter of Christened barbarism was the first result of that process, with the pagan superstition, violence and self-assertion thinly veneered with a coating of Christian usages and institutions. Out of these elements the clergy as well as the laity of Western Christendom were composed; and the rapacity, the ignorance, the neglect of duty which characterized them as a whole showed how little more than skin-deep were these Christian beliefs. Into the neglected and untaught congregations of the West, where a sermon rarely was heard, came the zealous propagandists of doctrines contrary to those of the church. They were heard gladly because there were no others to be heard. Heresy and Orthodoxy never were fairly put into competition, or else the wide and rapid spread of Manichean pessimism from Bosnia into Italy, Southern France, and even still remoter parts of Europe, would have been impossible. It was for the suppression of this Catharan heresy that the Inquisition arose. The tradition which ascribes its foundation to Dominic is a mistake. The founder of the Order of Preachers was ten years dead before its activity began. It arose gradually, and many builders might be given a share of the discredit which attaches to all who took part in it. First of these is the great Augustine of Hippo, whose later approval of the use of force against heretics threw the weight of his vast influence into the scale of persecution. Next came the two bishops who in 385 sanctioned the execution of the seven Priscillianists at Trier. Then came Pope Leo the Great, who in 447 gave his approval of an act which had excited the horror of all Christendom. But when the Catharan heresy became the problem of the times, it was not the church which was the first to fall back on this bad precedent, which had long been ignored. It was the mobs of the French and German cities, which began the practice of burning heretics to death, while for a long time the popes and the councils went no farther than to demand their banishment and the confiscation of their goods. It was the church's great enemy, Frederick II., who (1220-1239) embodied the penalty of death by burning in the law of the Empire; and it was "this legislation of a free thinker," which became the basis of the frightful executions in all parts of Europe, except Ireland. It is well known that the Roman Catholic Church denies its responsibility for the infliction of death upon heretics "by the secular arm." Yet it has actively coerced sovereigns to inflict this penalty, has treated them as accomplices in heresy when they commuted it to any lighter punishment, and in 1418 the Council of Constance decreed that Hussites should be "punished with fire" (*punitur ad ignem*).

The Inquisition was a tribunal to discover heresy, and composed of clergy expert in theology. The idea was borrowed from the Civil Law, and had been applied by pagan emperors for the extirpation of the Christians. In the earlier Middle Ages it was in the hands of the bishops, but as they proved inefficient or indifferent, the Papacy took the work in hand. At first commissions were issued to individual friars to search for heretics in certain localities. It was in 1233 that the work was given into the hands of the Dominican friars by Gregory IX., and the Inquisition founded on the line on which it was to do its frightful work. But it was in 1252 that Innocent IV., by the bull *Ad extirpanda* carefully elaborated "the machinery for systematic persecution as an integral part of the social edifice." The whole civil power was placed at the disposal of the inquisitors. No effective safeguard of personal liberty or even of life was left to any one. False accusations, laid by malicious persons, might subject the most orthodox Catholic to life-long confinement in a dungeon without trial, or he might be forced by the tortures of the rack to incriminate himself. Death at the stake and life in a dungeon were the alternatives open to those whose guilt appeared plain to the inquisitors; and those who escaped the former were obliged to earn their deliverance by accusations of others. In this way a frightful instru-

ment of social terrorism was erected, chiefly to cope with the Catharan heresy in Southern France and Northern Italy, and then was used against the other sects of the Middle Ages. With the Catharans it had perfect success. The sect finally was extirpated from both these countries, and only prolonged its existence in Bosnia until the conquest of that country by the Turks in the fifteenth century. But it failed signally to effect the destruction of the Waldenses, who are nearly if not quite as old a body, and are found in Italy to this day. Mr. Lea thinks the reason for the difference is found in the difference of their doctrines. The internal weakness of Catharism cooperated with the efforts of the Inquisition. Its gloomy pessimism and hard asceticism would have made its victory a calamity to Christendom. The simple Christian faith of the Waldenses gave them a firmer hold upon the districts where they were planted, and even enabled them to exercise a great influence upon the religious development of northern Europe. They were in close association with the more extreme Hussites, (Taborites), and from them the Bohemian church of the Unitas Fratrum (now called Moravians) derived its orders in 1457. Recent investigations, not noticed by Mr. Lea, seem to show that they were the authors of the old German translation of the Bible from the Latin Vulgate, which was circulated before Luther's.

The Inquisition was abused to other vile ends than the gratification of personal spite. The confiscation of the estates of heretics held out inducements to false accusations of heresy, in which the dead often were subjected to charges they could no longer refute, and their children were despoiled of their inheritance. In what now is Southern France, where the failure of the sovereigns of Toulouse to extirpate Catharism had led the Church to call in the French king, the Inquisition was used to despoil and subject feudal families, so as to extend the royal power. The case of the Counts of Foix, themselves zealous persecutors, is a striking instance of this abuse. But before long it was found that the Church had overreached itself in this policy. Everywhere but in Germany and Scandinavia the centralization of power in the hands of the kings had become a main tendency, and the Church had helped it forward. When the kings became strong enough they began to defy the Papacy. Philippe le Bel takes an attitude towards it which far abler kings would not have ventured. Monarchy set limits to the power of the inquisitors, and cramped it in various ways. Through the whole of the fifteenth century it was on the decline. Its feebleness in the struggle with the Hussites, and its utter desuetude by the time of Luther's breach with the Papacy, show the changed spirit of the age. Only in Spain, where the new and unsafe converts from Islam and Judaism were giving it work, did it remain as a vigorous engine of intolerance.

These two volumes possess in a high degree the excellence of Mr. Lea's historical work. They show that exhaustive familiarity with the first sources of history which has astonished his European critics, who wonder where in America he could find the books. They are marked by the same easy, clear, readable style, and the same sobriety of judgment. And it certainly is a feather in the cap of American scholarship that the first full and fair account of the Inquisition should be the work of a Philadelphia scholar.

#### AFTER ALL, WHAT IS POETRY?

THE question, "What is Poetry?" is an old one, but so long as no satisfactory or inclusive answer is forthcoming there would seem to be an excuse for its reiteration.

Dr. Johnson, from whose judgment there was once thought to be no appeal, thoughtfully considered all the elements in the problem, and then formulated this definition: "The expression of deep emotion in language different from and more elaborate than the language of every-day life."

How funny that definition looks to-day! But are we therefore to conclude that we have progressed farther than the dear doctor, or that the everlasting straining after artificial effects has led us away from the good old truths? Certainly the definition rules out some writers of acknowledged standing. Its first clause excludes Pope, who, while using much elaborate and formal language, cannot be said to have indulged in a superfluity of deep emotion. The second clause excludes Wordsworth, who expressed the profoundest emotion in the plainest words, holding consistently to his theory that the terminology of everyday life is the only true vehicle of poetry.

How much better off shall we be if we adopt Mr. Matthew Arnold's definition? If poetry be but "a criticism of life," what becomes of that splendid mysticism which, whether emanating from the Buddhist philosophies or from the transcendentalists of yesterday, deals with conceptions of which "life," as we understand the term, is but an infinitesimal fraction,—an atom of consciousness flashing forth and disappearing in the Infinite, as

"The dewdrop slips  
Into the shining sea?"

If poetry is a thing worth having, (and the world's history shows that, next to faith, it is humanity's most precious possession), it is certainly worth defining. There can be no criticism where there are no received standards; and without criticism we may not hope for that growth towards loftier ideals, lacking which art ceases to be a living thing.

As a matter of curiosity and with a view to ascertaining the divergence of individual opinions at this time, the writer has requested six persons, whose intelligence and culture are above rather than below the average of educated people, to furnish him with a definition of Poetry, making their answers sufficiently inclusive to cover all the elements which they severally deemed to be necessary factors, but reducing the language of the definition to as succinct a statement as possible. It should be mentioned that every one of these persons has written verse which has found acceptance, and all of them have been careful students of English literature, while at least three are familiar with the Continental literatures, and possess the full equipment of a classical education in its best sense. One of them is a woman, and the reader may perhaps find it interesting to indulge in some guessing as to which definition is hers.

Here are the definitions:

1. The interpretation of the Beautiful.
2. Human thought, set forth in language so symmetrically arranged as to produce pleasure in the hearer, without regard to moral purpose, and with only such outward restraints as may be necessary to preserve symmetry of form.
3. The deepest philosophy expressed in the choicest language.
4. The verbal embodiment of the principle of Beauty, whether in prose or verse.
5. Ethical truth expressed under certain fixed laws of form, which laws have reference to quantity and accent, and sometimes to rhyme.
6. Emotion expressed metrically.

Of a truth, here is a symposium! Manifestly it would be out of the question to attempt a detailed examination of the principles brought forward in these widely divergent definitions. We can only stop to remark one or two of the salient points, and to draw one or two general inferences.

Perhaps the most noticeable fact which a comparison brings out is that there is only one element or necessary factor upon which any two of the participants agree, namely the principle of Beauty.

The first and fourth definitions agree in making Beauty the *summum bonum* of all poetic expression. They say nothing about ethical purpose, nothing about any restrictions in external structure; they prescribe no limits to the imagination, and ask for no obedience to the recognized canons of taste; they demand only that the artist shall keep his soul true to the everlasting spirit of Beauty, and interpret her to the world with every power at his command.

The next circumstance which attracts attention is that only two of the definitions make metre a necessary condition. The last two demand metrical expression and seem to identify poetry with verse; all the others include the prose form as poetry, provided the other conditions of poetry be present. It is true that the second definition demands a "symmetry" in the arrangement of words, but inasmuch as all truly rhythmical prose possesses this symmetry, the pleasure to the hearer thence resulting brings it easily within the limits of the definition. Excellent examples occur in the Book of Job, and in Emerson's prose.

A third fact which forces itself upon one's notice is that the second and fifth definitions flatly contradict each other and appear to be at the polar extremes of the discussion. One sweeps away all ethical purpose, and would relegate to the preacher the inculcation of moral principles; the other makes morals the foundation stone of poetry, and has nothing to say for pleasurable emotions as a result of poetic bandiwork. One would break down all formal barriers which hinder the free flight of the poet's song; the other demands the rigid restraint of utterance within the limits of the recognized laws of artistic expression.

Perhaps the third and sixth definitions vary nearly as widely; for while one would make of poetry the profoundest of human philosophies, the other seems to say, by implication, that poetry and philosophy have very little in common. Emotion, including as it does here the whole sweep of human passions, is removed by a great gulf from the calm of "the philosophic mind."

Did space permit, it would be possible to obtain some very curious and interesting results from an attempt to fit the conditions above imposed to certain writers of more or less established reputation as poets. Imagine, for instance, the great group of classicists, from Dryden and Pope down to the weakest bantling among their followers, being put to judgment on the canons

of definition number four! Imagine the disciples of the only Boileau turned loose in the wild pasture of Beauty, with all their straps of rhymed couplets and distichs cut, and with every hedge of metre and fence of rhyme irretrievably broken down!

Or think of Milton writing an immortal Epic on the principles announced in definition number two! The cult of Byron, methinks, would seriously balk at definition number five, and the Swinburne of twenty years ago would make very wry faces at it, while the Swinburne of to-day gave it his clerical approval. Keats enters all folds by right divine, but Shelley could only hope for eligibility to the domains of the fifth definition upon condition that "Ethical" be construed to mean "Shelleian."

The American singers would enter the temple of Fame by various doors. Longfellow, Bryant, Lowell, Poe would each find at least one passage barred. Stedman's fine critical sense would inevitably revolt somewhere along the line. Sidney Lanier's splendid pinion, so early broken, would be sure to dash itself against the restrictions of the third definition, while number four appears to be Walt Whitman's only hope, though he would claim eligibility under all but the fifth.

When these definitions are tested by a system of exclusion, the suggestiveness of the discussion becomes apparent, and a wider expression could scarcely fail of interest to readers and writers.

FRANCIS H. WILLIAMS.

#### THE RESPONSIBILITY OF "JOURNALISM."

WHEN everybody must read the newspaper, it is not surprising that everybody should have an opinion of it. Like the weather, it becomes a universal subject. If we are obliged to regard some who may deal with it as experts, we yet cannot say that any are disqualified from forming a judgment. Since the newspaper appeals to all, it must consent to be judged by all.

Of the greatness of the newspaper no room is left for cavil. Statistics are abundant, but why quote them? No one denies the enormous expansion of journalism. No one can question how great a change there is from Franklin to Pulitzer. The newspaper sheet is bigger, the pages are multiplied, the issue of copies is enormously greater. A hundred years ago, a few persons read a little in a small journal: now men, women, and children are obliged to economize their other engagements of time in order to get all of their many newspapers perused. When George Washington died, journalism was in the sky but as a man's hand: now the heavens are black with clouds and wind, and there is a deluge twice daily. The strongest language can do no more than justice to the change.

A natural question from those upon whom this deluge descends relates to its character. Of what is the newspaper to be made? What shall its contents be? The prompt answer of the journalist who is a news purveyor and nothing more is that the newspaper cannot be other than a photograph of its day. It reflects what it finds. It is a cross-section of the stream of life, cut down from surface to bottom, at each stage, and showing every current, every impurity, every floating object, just at they actually are present.

But who finds anywhere such a photograph of the cross-section? The camera of the greatest newspaper is too small to take it. The limitations set upon mind and body, in those who make the journal and those who see it, forbid such an all-inclusive view of the great stream. As a matter of fact, there is no such thing made. Photographic views are taken here and there. The newspaper gives some part of the view, and leaves a great part. It presents what it thinks its constituency will like. If they are of the "sporting" world, it shows all the prize-fights, the horse races, and the ball matches. If they are trades-people, it reflects trade. If they are artists, it presents art. So that, after all, we come back to where we set out. The newspaper cannot give everything: what ought it to prefer?

When the need for selection is thus confronted, the need for judgment, and taste, and sense of moral responsibility is conceded. Since all cannot go into the newspaper, the question of comparative interest and importance, and of injury or benefit, attaches to each part that does go in. And since the picture to be made will be but a partial one, there must be some clue given to the proportion which exists between what is shown and what is omitted. The newspaper thus becomes a work of art, a painting rather than a photograph. Its size, its shape, its point of view, its choice of subject, its scheme of color, are all matters to be determined. And its readers, to whom it has appealed, have the right to be critics and judges of the work. They can as well complain of the editor's judgment, or his skill, as they can of an artist's. And they have the same right to condemn him for what is faulty in purpose, or false in tone. Journalism thus comes to the bar for a full examination and a rigid judgment. Its great bulk and its great



influence only make the demand for a strict dealing with it the more imperative. What is so all pervasive and all powerful must be held to a high responsibility.

#### MATCHLESS MARCH MORNINGS.

I HAVE lately learned to love these blustering March mornings, particularly when they do not bluster; for the north wind is happily often held in abeyance, and at no time can it sweep the sunny slopes that are already green with expectant buds. After all, it is but a question of standing on this or that side of a tree, whether it is spring or winter. A grand old chestnut, hard by, has had green grass at its roots since Christmas, and at the same time snow and ice were banked upon the wrinkled north side of its trunk.

But granting all this, why call a March morning matchless? Meet almost whomsoever you may, and he will deride the opinion that they can be mentioned except to condemn them. Nevertheless, I claim that they have features unknown to the other months, and while maligned by the many, are not without merit to the few—that happy few who delight in nature's harmless intoxicant, pure air. Perhaps it is that the atmosphere is doubly charged with that subtle quality, ozone, that now for a whole month stimulates every sense; but whatever it may be, there is an all-pervading influence in the clear air of a wild March morning that stirs us to livelier action; something far more potent than the mere thought that a long winter draws to a close. For years, I admit, I honestly hated; now, as honestly, I love these matchless March mornings.

That emphasis of action which we admire in mankind because indicative of their own faith in their work, characterizes every phenomenon of March, and calls forth my admiration, notwithstanding the marked rudeness of a gusty wind tends somewhat to disgust. But here I am manifestly unfair, for the cutting blasts are not unheralded; and forewarned, we are expected to be forearmed. So stick closely to the sunny side of some stout tree and view the airy battle from afar.

The sky is of a deeper blue than during the winter, but not until to-day have the scattered clouds so constantly chased their shadows across the meadows. Fleecy fragments of some distant storm-cloud, the wind has caught them up and now whirls them swiftly towards the sea. Beyond its reach, myself, the impelling power is quite forgotten, and something more than lifeless mist is speeding gleefully through space, ever at their heels, but never capturing their own earth-sweeping shadows.

Such days are sure to rouse to liveliest pitch the energies of all our winter birds, and none hug the sheltered slopes so closely as in months gone by. Even the tireless hawks are moved, and breaking the circles over which they have sailed for hours, dash, with wild screaming, down the fitful wind.

The bird world's lesser lights are no less active. At last the meadow-larks are moved to sing. For long they have threaded their silent way along tortuous paths in the dead and tangled grass; now they rejoice, with full hearts, in the open secret of spring at hand.

Where the old bridge shudders in the blast, as the winds sweep the troubled waters of the cheerless creek, the confident peewee never loses faith, and morning, noon, and night, repeats his cheery call. He has come to stay, and seldom does the severest weather cause him to repent. I have heard him singing when the creek was ice-bound and the ground covered deeply with snow.

From where I stood to-day, there was clustered a rank growth of seedling beeches, with here and there a more spreading growth of alder. A happy group of foxie finches, flitting through this pygmy forest, for hours made merry; and however dismal the day or desolate the world may appear, the music of these birds will chase the gloom away.

Most unfortunately it is only for a short time that we have these princely sparrows, when at their best, for day after day will often pass when they are either silent or only most monotonously chirp. So it was when I last saw them; every bird seemed given to meditation, and flew with reluctance when I drew too near; but to-day, their clear, flute-like voices drowned all other songs. Every note of this bird is a marvel of purity, and their variety greater than the repertoire of any other of their tribe; excelling, in this respect, even the song-sparrow. Nor is the song of every individual the same. They so far differ that when several birds are singing at one time, it gives the impression of a concert by various songsters, rather than the united efforts of a number of the same species.

As April approaches, the songs of these birds are more continued, especially if it is clear and warm at noon. Indeed, April sunshine is required to ripen the music of their dainty throats. Then it is well worth one's while to linger about the brier-hidden angles of some old worm fence, for then, and at such time, the

melody is next in merit to the early June-day efforts of the thrush and grosbeak.

Foxie finches advocate squatter sovereignty and are impatient of intrusion, where they have power to resist. The blundering sparrows of humbler grade are given prompt notice to quit and usually take a gentle hint without show of protest. I have always wished that these passerine nobles would become permanent settlers, for bird-full as are our pleasant places, there would be room for them. As it is, their sojourn suggests but a jolly hunter's camp, ringing the day long with so much gaiety that the echo of their songs lingers about the spot long after they have gone.

Much might be written of the long list of singing birds that like them make glad the waste places during March, but let us turn now to another and far from spring-like phase of this much maligned month. It is one of historic storms.

Where I stood on the 10th, gathering the humble flowers that dotted the sprouting grass, there now rests a grand curl-crested drift, twenty feet in height; and where I at times sought shelter from occasional gusts of chilly wind, that same day, now lies an uprooted chestnut with its storm-tossed branches strewn over the meadow. Borne by the hurricane, the sand-like snow has formed itself into one long, tortuous mound over the smilax thickets; glittering and roseate in the morning sun; cold and pale as death, in the feeble moonlight. The wondering, un-housed birds flitting over it by day, lessen, in part, the present dreariness of the scene; but when the faint shadow of a wandering owl passed over it, at night, the spot was desolate beyond all power of words to describe.

Twice I attempted on the memorable 12th, to watch out of doors the progress of the storm, but soon learned the danger of the attempt. It is marvellous, now, when all is so calm, to think that it was unsafe to be but a few rods from the house. The meagre landscape changed with wonderful rapidity, and snowdrifts that I found a shelter from the wind a moment before, were often moved bodily, or so it seemed, and threatened to overwhelm me. I can liken the roar of the wind among the trees to nothing less stupendous than Niagara's cataract, but varying in this, that each tree gave forth a different sound. Among the tall, mast-like branches of three enormous beeches, the noise was so shrill and piercing that it drowned, at times, the deeper-toned roaring and moaning among the oaks near by. Except the larger trees, there was little else to be seen; the fields and meadows alike being enveloped in misty cloud-mass of whirling snow, that I fancied the smoke of an icy fire.

I was concerned about the many birds that had sung so suggestively of spring on this same wooded slope, two days before. They surely had had no warning of the danger at hand, and now I had occasional glimpses of many as they were borne by me with fearful velocity. They seemed, at times, struggling to rise above the trees, as though aware of the danger of being dashed against them. Snow-birds, pine-finches, tree-sparrows, blue-birds, robins, song-sparrows, and the crows were the several kinds that I could positively identify; and all were equally unable to find a resting-place.

Once there was a decided lull, lasting perhaps for five minutes, and in that brief time the courage of a few tempest-tossed blue birds seemed to return. Though the air was still thick with snow, and every branch of every tree in motion, I heard these brave birds sing! Only a few most melancholy notes they uttered, it is true, but full of suggestion. Songsters they that merit a poem in their honor. I first caught a glimpse of them among the sweeping branches of the pines, and then saw them reach, after much effort, the snow-laden cedars, but it was not to find rest and shelter therein. A moment later the wind with redoubled fury struck the trees and they were lost in an avalanche. One enormous snow bank toppled over and buried them beneath it. That the blue birds should have escaped is strange indeed. The broad trunk of a sturdy oak saved me from the tempest's fury, but I dared stay no longer, and while struggling through the ever-shifting drifts I once more caught sight of these same birds, as they were dashed towards the meadows, and above the roar of the wind I heard, as I believe, the blue bird's song.

Surely the rambler who ventured abroad on the 12th, will admit it was a matchless March morning.

Trenton, New Jersey.

CHARLES C. ABBOTT.

#### WEEKLY NOTES.

THE *New Princeton Review* for March has three articles which we think especially notable. The first is that by Gamaliel Bradford, Jr., on Mr. Emerson's limitations as a stylist, especially in his poetry. He finds want of rhythm, no true sense of the nature of the language of imagination, an excess of the intellectual element, but an entire freedom from the commonplace, with plenty of epigrammatic wit. But he thinks his prose nearly faultless,

and puts "The Conduct of Life" into the place of honor we would keep for the first series of the "Essays." But as to his contents he has neither the logic that carries conviction, nor the consolation that lifts the weight of human sufferings.

A second paper of interest is by Mr. E. H. House, exposing the infamies of the "extra-territorial jurisdiction" forced upon Japan by the European powers, (with the United States standing by), and especially the frightful loss of life inflicted by Germany and England in breaking down the quarantine regulations against the cholera. Mr. House should collect his Japanese articles into a book.

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THE third article is by Professor Johnston, of Princeton, on "Law, Logic, and Government." It dwells on the weakness of the Anglo-Saxon mind, and especially of the English mind, to assume that a position legally unassailable is all that a government wants for its basis of operations. He shows that England occupied that position in 1760-65, and lost the American colonies by confounding law and logic with politics. He sees her making the same blunder in her treatment of Ireland, when she assumes the Treaty of Union,—which Professor Johnston, like every one else, calls the Act of Union,—effected a permanent, and workable settlement of the relations of Ireland to the Empire.

"One might pity the Irishman who should submit to overwhelming force; one could have nothing but contempt for him, if he submitted willingly to a regime historically based on bribery and corruption. On the other hand, the Englishman, having established a legal basis to which he could appeal in every case, has been as strongly inclined as ever to rest upon that, and to make it the standard by which every proposition for change or reform must be measured. He undertakes to make law and its logic the rules of Irish politics, never seeing that he is repeating, in a less pardonable form, the error through which his fathers lost the large part of their empire in the last century. Englishmen are commonly candid when they know the facts of a case, and those of them who know the facts concerning the passage of the Act of Union have been quick to acknowledge that excuse for its method is unthinkable; and yet many of them actually contrive to deplore the constitutional inability of Irishmen to 'look at things as they are' as one of the sources of the present Irish difficulties. They seem to be unable to see, in this particular case, that the victim of fraud must have very good reasons to condone an original and continuing offense before that offense can be considered a sound basis for existing law. . . . Conquest has its period of limitation, beyond which acquiescence is a duty; no limitation can run in favor of such a confessed fraud as the Act of Union." Prof. Johnston expresses a justifiable fear that Americans may make the same blunder in dealing with the labor problem.

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A PLEASANT "reception" on Monday evening, at the Colonnade Hotel, by the newly formed Wharton School Association, marked the steadily growing activities of the University. The Association will no doubt be useful to its own membership, and it supplies a new agency by which to stimulate the social and intellectual forces. At this meeting, which was well attended by invited guests, the subject of "Journalism" was presented in an interesting paper by Mr. E. H. Camp, of the *Times*, and afterward discussed by others. The points dwelt upon very naturally included the question whether the college can do anything toward the training of journalists, and Mr. Camp cited the varying opinions of a number of prominent editors on this point, the majority inclining to the affirmative view.

\* \* \*

THE meeting at Lancaster, in July of last year, of members of the faculties of fourteen of the colleges of Pennsylvania, with the formation of a State College Association, has developed the idea of materially enlarging the scope of the Association, and a circular has been sent out by President Seip, of Muhlenberg, and President Magill, of Swarthmore, (representing the Executive Committee), inviting all the colleges of the Middle States and Maryland to join in the annual meeting at the University of Pennsylvania, on the 5th and 6th of July. The plan is, if satisfactory response shall be received, to enlarge the Association and make it include the colleges of all the five States. The July meeting promises to be of much interest, and a programme of the exercises will be sent out in due time.

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THE last number of the *English Historical Review* contains an interesting short article by Professor A. H. Sayce on the Legend of Semiramis. The writer is inclined to doubt that the legends can be connected with Sammuramat, the wife of Rimmon-nirari III., who governed Assyria in 811-782, B. C. He thinks that the last part of the name *ramat* must mean "inhabitant," (though it

is much more likely that "loving doves" is the correct translation). Professor Sayce thinks that the legend was invented by Herodotus from information derived through Lydian sources.

#### WHEN FIELDING WROTE.

WHEN Fielding wrote the stalls were filled  
With books from pedant-brains distilled,  
Where Sentiment, in stilted phrase,  
From Nature stole her choicest bays  
And ruled all readers, laced or frilled.

Not mine the hand would hope to gild  
Refined gold. To Dobson, skilled  
In all their lore, I leave the days  
When Fielding wrote.

Ripe fruit from fields of life new-tilled,—  
Bright guineas from the mint new-milled,—  
The trophies of his genius blaze  
Through three half centuries of haze—  
We hear the very larks that trilled  
When Fielding wrote.

CHARLES HENRY LUDERS.

#### REVIEWS.

CREATION OR EVOLUTION? A PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY. By George Ticknor Curtis. 12mo. Pp. 564. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

THIS book is a highly interesting contribution to the discussion of the hypothesis of evolution, because of the special standpoint and method of its writer. We have long been accustomed to deliverances on this subject from men of scientific training of all grades, and also to other deliverances from men who avowedly adopted the standpoint of those outside of all branches of special inquiry bearing on the subject. But distinctly legal methods in this inquiry have been but rarely put in practice, and its use of the processes of judicial investigation gives this book a certain air of novelty to one who has threshed the evolutionary straw more than once. The introduction of legal method into scientific inquiry, which Mr. Curtis proposes to make, is at once very apparent. He starts out by laying down his rules of evidence, and they are throughout the rules of criminal jurisprudence. "Most of our beliefs," he says, "depend upon what is called circumstantial evidence. . . . The class of beliefs with which the rules of circumstantial evidence are concerned are those where the truth of the proposition or hypothesis is a deduction from many distinct facts, but the coexistence of which facts leads to the inevitable conclusion that the proposition or hypothesis is true. We cannot tell why it is that moral conviction is forced upon us by the coexistence of certain facts, and their tendency to establish a certain conclusion. All we know is, that our minds are so constituted that we cannot resist the force of circumstantial evidence if we suffer our faculties to act as our reason has taught them. But then, in any given case, whether we ought to yield our belief in anything where we have only circumstantial evidence to guide us, there are certain rules to be observed. The first of these rules is, that every fact in a collection of proofs from which we are to draw a certain inference must be proved independently by direct evidence, and must not be itself a deduction from some other fact. . . ."

Now, we think, it is right here that this learned jurist goes astray. He passes over as a self-evident truth the belief that the judicial rules of evidence should be applied to scientific investigation. We should rather characterize it as palpable, if not self-evident error. There are, strictly speaking, no scientific rules of evidence at all analogous to the judicial rules of evidence, because there is no similar moral obligation to reach right conclusions in the speculative domains of science. Jurisprudence is purely an applied science; its principles touch rights at every point, and its deductive conclusions only become valid when they have received the seal of actual application in a case where rights are at issue. In other words, jurisprudence is ethical; science is speculative. In certain cases of the application of scientific conclusions to actual practice in relation to human welfare, it might be contended that the principles of evidence should be rigidly adhered to, as it would be criminal in an officer of government to make a move of grave consequences on the basis of an unverified theory. But belief purely as such has no ethical character, and can only be left to the natural workings of the human mind. Facts, when presented to the human intelligence, suggest inferences, and these inferences issue in hypotheses, which remain such until verified, either by actual experiment or by circumstantial evidence. But a



hypothesis acquires a high degree of probability in the eyes of all intelligent people, when it is seen to be consonant with all the direct evidence attainable, and in the line of the presuppositions established by the general scientific sense. It does not have to bring forth evidence to prove the impossibility of any other hypothesis, as would be necessary if the question were one of establishing a moral certainty of the guilt of a criminal at the bar.

Armed with these rules of evidence, Mr. Curtis easily shows the case of the evolutionists to be without standing in court, but *cui bono?* Armed with similar appliances, the evolutionists could very soon pulverize his doctrines of special creations, of a personal Creator, and others in which he is backed by a large portion of the thinking part of mankind. Mr. Curtis should remember that he is not arguing for an injunction from a court of law to restrain the propagation of doctrines resting on the truth of the evolution hypothesis, but only speaking to a lay audience, who, with whatever veneration they may regard his judicial rules of evidence, are steadily judging the questions on which he is arguing by the canons of common-sense. These canons are slowly but surely establishing, as practically proved in the minds of thinking people, a large part of what he here maintains to be truth, and a very respectable share of what he vehemently opposes, and are doing it with a sublime disregard of such brilliant pieces of special pleading as this book contains. For Mr. Curtis is all too captious and obstructive and quibbling and disingenuous to do much good work in setting science straight. People are very willing to hearken unto scientific reasons for belief which fail to meet the requirements of the rules of evidence, if only such reasons are honestly stated for what they are worth, and are not merely negative. But people who give all their efforts toward obtaining a verdict of "not proven" are likely to make a poor figure before the tribunal which determines such cases as this.

A. J. F.

THE ISLAND: AN ADVENTURE OF A PERSON OF QUALITY. By Richard Whiteing. London and New York: Longmans, Green & Co.

One of the most significant phases of current literature is the presentation of the facts, theories, and dreams of Socialism. The subject is exploited in all ways, with all degrees of temperance, reasoning, violence; from the ground of evident selfishness, and from that of, as evident, pure love of human kind; as a politico-economic topic, with arrays of statistics; as a religious movement, with its appeal to the higher law. Among the many forms of its activity is its invasion of the field of "light" literature. Mr. Walter Besant has written some powerful books depicting the crushing and ever intensifying misery of society under its present inequalities, as he sees them, and he has had many followers, none of them quite as able as himself, but all of them earnest, and making, as it seems, an increasing body of opinion. One of the best of these socialistic romances was Mr. Edward Bellamy's recent "Looking Backward," and now we have this gloomily thoughtful book of Mr. Richard Whiteing's, which from the points of conscience and vigor will rank with the best of the series.

The "Person of Quality" who is supposed to tell this tale has, in the first instance, his spirits dashed by contemplation of the woes of London, not alone by the unrelieved wretchedness of the East End but by the even more depressing indifference to the fate of their fellow creatures of those whom Fortune has treated more kindly. At last his heart fails him at the sight and he tries the "Continent,"—first Paris, then Geneva and other centres of the great army of labor. Everywhere he finds the same grinding rule, the getting of the most for the least. Then he leaves the hard land and takes to the more charitable sea. Careless whither fate leads him, he embarks for a voyage of circumnavigation, and presently by an accident is thrown ashore on no less a place than Pitcairn's Island, the strange home of that little colony descended from the famous mutiny of the British ship *Bounty*, the story of which in a day when "news" was really news, so moved our great-grandfathers. "Lord —" (the "person of quality") finds Pitcairn to be much the kind of spot that the infrequent visitors of latter days have described it as being. There, if anywhere on this doubly-rolling ball, was peace; there was the cruel self-seeking world, with its slums, its rum, its stock exchanges, its wages arranged on an ingenious scale of just keeping body and soul together,—with all these things and their congeners forgot, unknown. Our Man of Feeling at last has found a home, and he makes up his mind to end his days in the primitive innocence of Pitcairn. It is borne in upon him afresh after awhile, however, that the earth is a small place; even on his far-away island of the Pacific he gets news from England; one of the ships which at long intervals land there brings word of the distressing anxiety of his mother; duty bids him turn again to his native place, but he tells the woman he has grown to love on the Island that he will surely return;—and thus the story ends, with a possible promise of a sequel, but fairly complete in itself.

Mr. Whiteing had opportunities in this theme which he has not entirely improved. He has by no means made the best of the romantic possibilities of as fresh a field as his newly discovered island, but worse than that he makes the serious fault, as it appears to us, of endeavoring in the way of satire, to involve Pitcairn itself in the maelstrom of earthly things which have gone wrong. The narrator attempts to sow seeds of disaffection among the innocent islanders; he tells them they need distinction of classes and various other things which have made the mother country so prosperous and great. This is not only a bitter play,—that it was meant to be,—but it defeats itself. It deprives the book, ingeniously planned on the whole, of a logical consistence at a critical part. So determined is the writer on his satirical point that for awhile the reader is disposed to lose faith in him. Much better would it have been to have rested for conclusive effect upon the simple contrast between the islands—England and Pitcairn, between the brutal mastery of wealth and the simple living of the Golden Rule. With all its faults, however, this is a book of real power. And if it is no more than a dream; if "Looking Backward" and "Children of Gibeon" are also dreams, yet are they dreams to do the soul good. In a greater work than any of these we read that we are, all of us:

"Such stuff as dreams are made of, and our little life is rounded with a sleep."

G. W. A.

HISTORY OF PRUSSIA. Volumes I., II. By Herbert Tuttle, Professor of History in Cornell University. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1888.

The first volume of Professor Tuttle's work was published in 1884, and dealt with the history of Prussia, from its rise out of the Mark of Brandenburg to the death of the second king, Frederic William I., and the accession of his son, Frederic, known in history as "the Great." The present volumes are occupied entirely with Frederic's reign, and by no means dispose of it: the first covers the period 1740–45, and is chiefly occupied with the seizure of Silesia, while the second deals with the eleven years 1745–56, mostly years of peace, but leading up to the desperate struggles of the Seven Years War. Two more volumes, as we understand from the preface to Volume II., will complete the work, the first describing the Seven Years War, and the second the closing years of Frederic's reign.

The estimate to be placed upon the whole work is certainly much enhanced by these additions. While the study of the earlier period is orderly and intelligent, the theme is of course far inferior in interest to that afforded by the career of Frederic the Great. In dealing with it, however, Prof. Tuttle is following in the footsteps of one whom he himself dignifies by the name of "the master," and he explains that he has ventured to repeat in this manner only upon evidence of the imperfections of Carlyle's work. "My own faith was shaken," he says, "when during a residence of several years in Berlin I discovered how inadequate was Carlyle's account, and probably also his knowledge, of the working system of the Prussian government in the last century,—a system which it is absolutely necessary to understand if one desires to know as well why Frederic was able to accomplish what he did, as why his successors failed to accomplish what they undertook." And not merely in relation to this detail, but to the whole subject, Prof. Tuttle thinks Carlyle's studies of the materials very inadequate, while, since the time when he wrote, there has come up a vast literature, throwing light upon the reign of Frederic, representing nearly every national standpoint. Among the works in this list there are two of special importance, the "Geschichte Maria Theresias," by Dr. Von Arneth, director of the Austrian archives, and the Prussian view of the period 1740 to 1756, presented in the fifth part of Droysen's "Geschichte der preussischen Politik"; while, subordinate to these, there are monographs and minor studies by the score. These Professor Tuttle has worked over: for Carlyle they did not exist. As in so many other cases, the development of the scientific method in history has been accompanied by so great an accession of materials on which to apply it, that the old work, even if done by a master far more sound in judgment and temper than Carlyle, must be superseded by the newer and better one.

Professor Tuttle, it seems to us, has used very admirably the opportunity offered him. He deals very fairly with the subject. While the gigantic personality of Frederic continually overlooks the field, he yet gives much of the history of the people of Prussia, and a large part of the second of these volumes is occupied with details describing their social and political circumstances. He certainly does not worship Frederic, but he does full justice to his extraordinary abilities. Following patiently the ins and outs of his exterior policy, the diplomatic combinations of directness with deceit, of bravado with conciliation, of candor with lying, and of firm good faith with the meanest treachery, by which he labored to hold on to the territory he had ravished, Professor Tuttle does not dimin-

ish the actual proportions of this colossal figure. And describing his blunders in the field, his campaigns that ought not to have been undertaken, and his battles that ought not to have been fought, he yet justly deals with his abilities as a soldier, and leaves us the portrait of a bold and successful leader of men. The arrangement of the work is good. The battles are concisely described, and room is thus gained for explaining why they were fought, and the results that followed them. Professor Tuttle's style, if not brilliant, is sufficiently pleasant and graphic to hold the reader's close attention. On the whole, he has made an excellent history, which is sure to take its place upon the shelves of our permanent collections.

#### BRIEFER NOTICES.

RECENT issues of Cassell's National Library are: (1) Shelley's "Prometheus Bound, Adonais, The Cloud, Hymn to Intellectual Beauty, and An Exhortation." These constitute probably the best selections for popular reading that could be made from this erratic poet. (2) Shakespeare's "King Lear" with nineteen pages of introduction by Prof. Morley. We could have wished to have a reprint of the story of Lear as told in Geoffrey of Monmouth's chronicle. In the third scene of the fourth act, Prof. Morley found the line—

"A sovereign shame so elbows him: his own unkindness"

wanting in both sense and metre, and thinks it a printer's blunder for—

"A sovereign shame shows him his own unkindness."

The late Dr. Krauth used to say jestingly that Shakespeare owed very much of his interest and popularity to the blunders of his printers. (3) "Seven Discourses on Art," by Sir Joshua Reynolds, the first good book on the history and criticism of art in our language and one which never has been superseded. (4) "A History of the Early Part of the Reign of James the Second," by Charles James Fox,—a torso of what was to be the Whig history of the Whig Revolution. Fox died without bringing the narrative further than the execution of Monmouth. The book has enjoyed a *succes d'estime* only.

The first of the volumes to constitute the "Twelve English Statesmen" series, of Messrs. Macmillan & Co., is now out, and proves to be a very neat and attractive little book. The subject, as has already been mentioned, is "William the Conqueror," and the author Mr. Edward A. Freeman. It is a concise and well prepared study, and starts off the series admirably. The others are to follow, monthly, the April number to be Prof. Mandell Creighton's "Wolsey," and that of May, Mr. H. D. Traill's "William III." We have no doubt of their pronounced success.

"One Maid's Mischief" is a good example of the facile style of Mr. G. Manville Fenn, who is without doubt one of the best story tellers of the period. The opening of the book gives a clever picture of English country life, with a particularly engaging portrait of a simple-natured curate, a sketch of which any writer might be proud; afterward the scene is laid in India. No more agreeable books of the surface kind can be mentioned than Mr. Fenn's, with their unstrained vivacity, pleasant humor, and abundant incident. We have had occasion in the last few years to speak of several of them and "One Maid's Mischief" will be found quite as good as the others. (D. Appleton & Co.)

#### AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

THE American Sunday School Union's premium of \$1,000 for the best manuscript for the purposes of the Society upon "The Christian Obligations of Labor and Capital," has been awarded to Henry W. Cadman, of San Francisco.

David Gray, of Buffalo, whose death on the 18th inst. was caused by injuries received in a railway accident, was a poet of real ability. He was an active journalist until 1882, and had made reputation in connection with the Buffalo Courier, of which he became chief editor in 1876.

The death of Mr. Gray is but one incident of a series of painful happenings to literary people. We have already reported the nearly fatal accident to Rev. Dr. Ward, editor of the Independent by being run down by a recklessly driven truck. Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, the historian, and editor of *The Magazine of American History* suffered in much the same way in Broadway, N. Y., on the 23d inst.

M. Taine is in very bad health and it is feared that some of his most important literary work will be left unfinished.—Mr. Grant Allen has been wintering in Algeria, but has not profited from the climate as much as was hoped for. It invigorated him for a time, but he had a relapse and is not now able to do any work.—Miss Mathilde Blind has been compelled for health rea-

sons to winter near Nice. Despite her ailments she has written a story, with the Riviera as the scene, called "At Cross Purposes."

"The History of Portugal," by Edward McMurdo, lately published by Sampson Low, London, is said to be a mere translation of Herculano's "Historia de Portugal." The title-page states that Mr. McMurdo has "compiled from Portuguese histories." The author in the preface helps a little further by the statement: "I had learnt so much of the glorious past of Portugal that I resolved to have a translation made of records available at Lisbon. The Portuguese language is most difficult, and it was only after two years' search that I found a competent translator in the person of the accomplished Miss Mariana Monteiro, to whom all the credit of the present volume is due." Herculano is not mentioned.

Dodd, Mead & Co. are about to publish a uniform library edition of the works of Walter Besant and James Rice, in twelve volumes. "The Golden Butterfly" will begin the series.

Lady Dilke is engaged on a work dealing with the organization of the arts, with special reference to the foundation of the Academies in France. There is no truth in a current statement that she is writing a book of travels.

Isaac Henderson, author of "The Prelate," has written a novel called "Agatha Page, a Parable," which Ticknor & Co. will publish within a fortnight.

The three hundredth anniversary of the translation of the Bible into Welsh, which occurs this year, will be celebrated by publishing a reprint of this (Bishop Morgan's) version, in a column parallel with the revised version, by erecting a memorial to the Bishop at St. Asaph, and by establishing a Welsh scholarship for Biblical learning.

The Société de Gens des Lettres have decided to make the French exhibition of 1889 the occasion of an International Literary Congress. The last gathering of the kind in France was held in 1878, under the presidency of Victor Hugo.

Colonel Higginson, in a lecture in Cambridge a few nights ago, on the professional life of a literary man, commented on the comparatively small number of literarians in this country,—the last census, he said, placing the number of authors, lecturers, etc., at 1,300. In his mind, real literature began with the weekly papers, and then extended over an indefinite number of publications.

Mr. W. E. Henley, formerly editor of the *Magazine of Art*, and long a close student of the French Romantic period, is engaged on the life of Alexandre Dumas for the series of "Great Writers." There is now no good biography of Dumas in either French or English.

Mr. G. Dobson, at one time the London Times correspondent at St. Petersburg, and again correspondent of that journal during the Bulgarian war, is to write the life of Prince Gortschakoff in the "Statesmen Series."

Miss Rose Elizabeth Cleveland denies that she is doing any literary work for publication. She is writing lectures for the pupils under her charge.

Herr Stöcker, the Berlin Court preacher and enemy of the Jews, has petitioned the Town Council of Düsseldorf to prohibit the erection of the Heine monument at that place; but there is very little reason to think the appeal will be successful.

Dr. Horace H. Furness is revising the proofs of his *variorum* edition of "The Merchant of Venice."

A volume of selections from the poetry of the late Philip Bourke Marston will form the May volume of the "Canterbury Poets." It will be entitled "Song Tide: Poems and Lyrics of Love's Joy and Sorrow." It will include a hundred sonnets. A memoir and critical note will preface the collection.

The London Academy declares that it is in France that the keenest love for poetry now manifests itself. Not only are the French poets popular; there seems to be a large number of French readers eager for the best work of contemporary German and English poets. Tennyson is fairly and widely read abroad, and Browning is read about: as for Rossetti, his name is certainly more familiar in Parisian literary circles than is that of any contemporary French poet after Victor Hugo in England.

Messrs. Henry Stevens & Sons, London, announce another of the important books on American affairs of which they have made such a specialty. It is entitled "The Campaign in Virginia, 1781" and consists of a reprint of six rare pamphlets on the Clinton-Cornwallis controversy, together with much allied matter, compiled and edited with index and biographical notices by Benjamin Franklin Stevens. It will be furnished only to subscribers, at \$10 for the two volumes, royal octavo. The volumes relate to the controversy between Sir Henry Clinton and Lord Cornwallis growing out of the Campaign in Virginia, and are practically an "Enquiry into the causes of the great Loss which the British Na-



tion sustained by the Surrender of the whole Army under the Command of Lieutenant General Earl Cornwallis at York Town and Gloucester, in the Province of Virginia, as Prisoners of War," by which the Independence of the United States was virtually secured.

#### PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

THE March *Century* is out of print owing to the popular interest in the Libby Prison article. This is not surprising; it was a capital paper.

The April number of *Scribner's* gives particulars of the series of illustrated articles on Railways referred to in the prospectus for 1888.

The New York *Mirror* "Annual" and "Directory of the American Theatrical Profession for 1888," edited by Harrison Grey Fiske, is now ready. Its chief features are a chronological dramatic record, a necrology for 1887, dramatic biography of the past year, and a directory of the dramatic profession of America.

An article on "Pioneer Illustration in California," with reproductions of many of the best engravings of that period, will be a feature of the *Overland Monthly* for April. It will deal with the work of the artists and engravers who created the well-known types of California mining life, and will contain biographical sketches of Chas. Nahl and others.

From *The Pennsylvanian* we learn that Prof. Rothrock is preparing a biographical sketch of "Asa Gray as a Teacher," to be issued in a short time. The same journal demurs strongly to the harsh and unjust treatment which Prof. McMaster's "Benjamin Franklin" receives in a review by Julian Hawthorne, in the March issue of the *American Magazine*.

In the great race of the illustrated magazines for popular favor, the energy and spirit shown by all of them is wonderful. The *Cosmopolitan*, for March, has an article on "German Opera in New York," by Henry T. Finck, liberally illustrated in the text, and also by four full-page illustrations in color. The same issue contains the first five chapters of a story of Southern life, by E. P. Roe, entitled "Miss Lou," a short story by Count Tolstoi, and other notable papers. This is the publication in which U. S. Grant, Jr., is now interested. The price per single copy is but twenty cents; or \$2.00 a year.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

THE Council Bluffs (Iowa) *Herald* broaches the theory that the natural gas, which now seems to be so nearly ubiquitous, is due to some recent conditions, and was not to be found in the places where it now appears a few years back. It is not quite clear as to what condition of the physical constitution of the land has changed so greatly in the last few years, but it is inclined to trace the responsibility back to the railroads and telegraph lines. And that the facts require some such explanation it is very positive, and it adduces the following instances in support of its views. "There is scarcely a State in the Union where it has not been found in larger or smaller quantities, pouring up from the wells drilled in the earth to varying depths, with a pressure varying from a few pounds to 500 pounds to the square inch. It is now almost impossible to sink a well anywhere in the oil regions of Pennsylvania and not strike a powerful pressure of gas. Ten or fifteen years ago, when these regions were being honeycombed with drills, many of them reaching a depth as great as 4,000 feet, gas was unknown, and it was only toward the end of the first oil decade that the 'gassers' were encountered. Now a well of 1,000 feet will be almost certain to strike a small quantity of oil and very large quantities of gas. Twenty years ago, artesian wells were bored all over the country without encountering gas; now it is almost impossible to do so and not find at least enough to make a blaze. Despite the best engineering skill and the most intelligent precautions that experience and science have given the coal miner, the disasters from the explosion of the deadly gas are more frequent than they were a few years ago, when the only precautions deemed necessary to prevent explosions were the wire-gauze lamps. The gas is becoming more plentiful everywhere. It is being encountered in the metallic mines as well as the coal mines, and in many places, like Herndon, 100 miles east of Council Bluffs, it is bubbling up through the ponds on the open prairie."

But despite this wonderful extension of the natural gas field far beyond the limits which were at first believed to limit it, there is one place which has not yet been able to prove itself on its territory, though ardently desirous of so doing. The citizens of Chicago have, from the first discovery of the gas, been quick to see the advantages it would offer to their city if successfully introduced. In default of finding a flow of it in the immediate vicinity of the city, however, it has now been resolved by some capitalists to pipe it to the town from fields in Indiana. An ordinance has been in-

troduced in City Council granting a franchise to the Chicago Fuel Company to pipe natural or other gas through the city. The incorporators of the company have been investigating for some time the feasibility of piping natural gas to the city for fuel and illuminating purposes as well. They satisfied themselves that it could be done, and then secured conditionally several tracts of gas-producing territory in Indiana. A company was then formed with a capital of \$12,000,000, which has all been pledged, and if the ordinance is passed by Council, the company propose to commence work at once and within a year to furnish 100,000,000 feet of gas every thirty days, and thereafter to hold itself in readiness to supply all demands, steadily increasing its facilities.

An examination was recently made by the chief engineer to the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway, of the condition of the piles of the South Bassein Bridge, some of which have been down for twenty-five years, and exposed during this period to the action of sea water. Specimens were cut from each pile that was considered likely to be corroded, and, from an examination of these, it was concluded that the greatest corrosion in cast-iron piles exists close to low water and does not extend to any considerable depth below it, a conclusion which also applies to bolts and braces. After twenty-five years' exposure in a salt water way the piles are in very good condition, and corrosion has only occurred in places which are easily accessible for repairs and renewals.

It is stated in *Popular Science News* that recent observations on the heights of various peaks of the Andes show a considerable diminution in their height as compared with well-authenticated measurements taken some time ago. Quito, which in 1745 was 9,596 feet above the level of the sea, was only 9,570 feet in 1803, 9,567 in 1831, and scarcely 9,520 in 1867. The altitude of Quito has, therefore, diminished by 76 feet in 122 years. Another peak, the Pichincha, has diminished by 218 feet during the same period, and its crater has descended 425 feet in the last twenty-five years. That of Antisana has sunk 165 feet in sixty-four years.

A Nevada paper describes a remarkable kind of tree which is said to grow in that part of the country, and which certainly possesses qualities of great value according to the description. The trees do not grow large, a tree with a trunk about a foot in diameter being much above the average. When dry, the wood is about as hard as boxwood, and being of very fine grain, might, no doubt, be used for the same purpose. It is of a rich red color and very heavy. When well seasoned it would be a fine material for the wood carver. In the early days it was used for making boxes for shafting, and in a few instances, for shoes and dies in quartz batteries. Used as a fuel it creates intense heat. It burns with a blaze as long as ordinary wood would last, and is then found—almost unchanged in form—converted into charcoal that lasts twice as long as ordinary wood. For fuel a cord of it brings about the same price as a ton of coal. Unfortunately it burns out stoves faster than any kind of coal.

It is reported in the *British Journal of Photography* that chloride of nitrogen has been discovered to be decomposable under the action of light, and hence is likely to furnish another chemical for use in photography. One of the drawbacks to its use, however, is that it is a violent explosive, and few chemists care to experiment with it, even in small quantities. Besides being violent, it is highly capricious in its action, and of course still more dangerous on this account. Dr. Gutterman, who has discovered this property to reside in the chloride of nitrogen, finds that the yellow liquid—the form in which it is known to chemists—is in reality a compound of at least two distinct chlorides which he has hopes of being able to separate. He finds that it is decomposed in the light, rapidly in full sunlight with periodic spontaneous explosions, and is fired at once by exposure to the magnesium light.

Experience at the Winter Palace of the Czar at St. Petersburg, indicates that the electric light injures the exotic plants used for the decoration of the rooms, by causing the leaves to turn yellow, dry up, and fall off. The experiments of Dr. Siemens led him to a different conclusion; but his greenhouse was heated by the waste steam from the engine driving his dynamo, and this perhaps was of beneficial effect sufficient to counteract the mischief done by the light.

A new thermometer for measuring the temperature of the air has been constructed by R. Assmann. In order to protect it from the influences of radiation and other sources of heat, he inserts the bulb of the thermometer in a metal tube which is open at its lower end. An aspirator is fastened to the tube near the bulb, and a continuous current of air of about seven feet velocity passes the latter. Thus it assumes the true temperature of the air. The tube is made of highly polished nickel-plated brass in order to protect it from radiation. Experiments show that this thermometer gives entire satisfaction. Two instruments, one of

which was exposed to the sun in July while the other was shadowed, showed the same temperature. A dry and a wet thermometer being inserted in the tube, it serves as hygrometer in the same way as the ordinary thermometer. Undoubtedly the device is superior to the arrangement of thermometer now in general use.

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- INTERNATIONAL LAW. With Materials for a Code of International Law. By Leone Levi. (International Scientific Series.) Pp. 346. New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- THE CASE OF MOHAMMED BENONI. A Story of To-day. Pp. 324. New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- ONE MAID'S MISCHIEF. A Novel. By G. Manville Fenn. Pp. 364. Paper. \$0.30. New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- THE ISLAND; OR, AN ADVENTURE OF A PERSON OF QUALITY. By Richard Whiteing. Pp. 290. \$1.50. London and New York: Longmans, Green & Co.
- GOUVERNEUR MORRIS. By Theodore Roosevelt. (American Statesmen.) Pp. 370. \$1.25. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
- A STORY OF THE SANDS, AND OTHER POEMS. By Dr. E. L. Macomb Bristol. "the Flower Poet." Pp. 104. New York: Brentano's.
- HASCHISCH. A Novel. By Thorold King. Pp. 314. Paper. \$0.50. New York: Brentano's.
- THE GREAT AMHERST MYSTERY. A True Narrative of the Supernatural. By Walter Hubbell. Pp. 168. Paper. \$0.25. New York: Brentano's.
- WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR. By Edward A. Freeman. ("Twelve English Statesmen.") Pp. 200. \$0.60. London and New York: Macmillan & Co.
- CHIROGRAPHY; or, the Art of Telling One's Character by Handwriting. By E. Palmer. Pp. 21. \$0.50. New York: The Knickerbocker Press.
- WILLIAM OF GERMANY: a Succinct Biography of William I, German Emperor and King of Prussia. By Archibald Forbes. Pp. 366. \$1.50. New York: Cassell & Co.
- IRISH WONDERS. The Ghosts, Giants, [etc.,] and other Marvels of the Emerald Isle. Popular Tales as Told by the People. By D. R. McNally, Jr. Pp. 218. \$2.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

#### FREE TRADE AND PROTECTION IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

THE New York Press, in a recent issue, reproduces the following letter, written by Congressman George D. Tillman, of South Carolina, a year or so ago. It is a reply to a request to join in the formation of a Free Trade Association. After declining to do so, very emphatically, Mr. Tillman says:

"Shall we of the Palmetto State always be self-idolrous Bourbons, never forgetting, never learning anything? Was it not our intemperate zeal for Free Trade that led to nullification, and was it not as much to enjoy Free Trade as to protect Slavery that South Carolina seceded in 1860? Hence, what issue can better revive sectional hate or reopen the healing wounds of the war than for the 'cradle of the rebellion' to begin, at this early stage of the next canvass, to agitate the old cause of the quarrel—Free Trade—when protection is the settled policy of a large majority of the Northern people?

"No other Southern State, as I am advised, is at present trying to lash itself into furor of excitement against a protective tariff. Then why should we volunteer to preach a crusade for redressing the supposed wrongs of the agricultural States of the South and West? Surely we can bear the ills of protection as long as they can.

"It is as true now as it ever was that whoever spits against the wind spits in his own face; and considering that South Carolina's policy led to the war which forced the government to contract a debt of nearly three thousand million dollars, the payment of the interest and principal of which, together with providing for current expenses and pensions, requires an annual revenue of nearly three hundred million dollars, is it becoming in South Carolina to prate about Free Trade?

"Whether it shall please South Carolina or the other ex-Confederate States or not, either incidental or *per se* protection will for a great while remain the law of this land, as has been the case since the war, and as was the case for considerable periods at different times before the war. If manufactures and a high tariff have made the North rich, why should not we avail ourselves of the same means to make money? Manufactures do undoubtedly multiply values, increase employments, diversify industries, raise wages, found towns, establish schools, accumulate wealth, and improve a community in innumerable ways.

"What have we to show in South Carolina for two hundred years of devotion to Free Trade and exclusive agriculture, except worn out land, 600,000 negroes, and universal suffrage? Where are our factories, our mines, our ships, our banks, our charities, our libraries, our colleges, our inventions, our sciences, our literature, or our arts? Is the result so cheering as to invite us still further to tread in the footsteps of our fathers, and not only to denounce all manufactures, but wear homemade cloth, as they did in the days of nullification, to discourage the use of factory cloth protected by a tariff?

"In any community which has but one occupation—say agriculture—wages are generally low, except at short periods of seed and harvest time. When stagnation comes, as come it must in every profession and calling at times, how universal the depression.

"I boldly avow myself the ardent friend of manufacturing at the South, as I believe it is the only means that can bring us prosperity, wealth, immigration, general education, or high civilization."

#### GENERAL HARRISON ON PROTECTION.

[From the report of the speech of Gen. Ben. Harrison, at the Marquette Club Banquet, Chicago.]

THERE is another question to which the Republican party has committed itself, and on the line of which it has accomplished, as I believe, much for the prosperity of this country. I believe the Republican party is pledged and ought to be pledged to the doctrine of the protection of American industries and American labor. I believe that in so far as our native inventive genius, which seems to have no limit—our productive forces—can supply the American market, we ought to keep it for ourselves.

And yet this new captain on the bridge seems to congratulate himself on the fact that the voyage is still prosperous, notwithstanding the change of commanders; seems to forget that the reason that the voyage is still prosperous is because the course of the ship was marked out before he went on the bridge and the rudder tied down. He has attempted to take a new direction since he has been in command, with a view of changing the sailing course of the old craft, but it has seemed to me that he has made the mistake of mistaking the flashlight of some British lighthouse for the light of day.

I do not intend here to-night in this presence to discuss this tariff question in any detail. I only want to say that in the passage of what is now so flippantly called the war tariff, to raise revenue to carry on the war out of the protective duties which were then levied, there has come to this country a prosperity and development which would have been impossible without it, and that a reversal of this policy now, at the suggestion of Mr. Cleveland, according to the line of the blind statesman from Texas (Mills), would be to stay and interrupt this march of prosperity on which we have entered.

I am one of those uninstructed political economists that have an impression that some things may be too cheap; that I cannot find myself in full sympathy with this demand for cheaper coats, which seems to me necessarily to involve a cheaper man and woman under the coat. I believe it is true to-day that we have many things in this country that are too cheap, because whenever it is proved that the man or woman who produces any article cannot get a decent living out of it, then it is too cheap.

#### DRIFT.

DEMONSTRATING the value of the fisheries as a training school for American seamen, the Boston Journal says: "It is generally estimated that from 70 to 78 per cent. of New England fishermen are American citizens, and if this be so it is plain that Yankees are about as numerous on our fishing vessels as aliens on the vessels in our merchant service. This is not a mere surmise. It is demonstrated by figures. During 1886 of the seamen shipped in ports of the United States for foreign and coastwise voyages 63 per cent. were foreigners and 37 per cent. Americans. Here in the port of Boston native seamen constituted only 15 per cent. of those reported by the Shipping Commissioner. At Bath, where the business done was altogether coastwise, two-thirds of the men were foreigners and but one-third American. In the regular naval service native seamen are estimated to number from one-fourth of the crews of some ships to barely one-tenth of the crews of others. It appears to be a lamentable fact that our New England fishermen are the only large class of thorough-going Yankee sailors left to us."

Our sister cities are beginning to supply themselves with elevated roads in the streets. Brooklyn is afflicted with them already. And now Chicago has heedlessly committed itself in the same way. All that we can say to the deluded victims is: Don't. Make your rapid-transit companies buy their right of way, use firm foundations and save your city thoroughfares for what they were intended. This is the policy that is at last beginning to prevail in New York. So far we have only a make shift at rapid transit and not the real article at all.—N. Y. World.

Andrew Lang writes to the Critic: "Apparently, trifles are taken even more seriously than I had supposed. Somebody sends me a *Social Science Review*, in which Mr. Edgar Fawcett is kind enough to refer to *mine* as *not* serious poetry. Why, who ever fancied they were! May not a man whistle, even when it is not Sunday? That people should be so devoutly earnest about tunes played with one finger on a rickety spinet amazes me. Mr. Fawcett is quite right. Ballades are not grand, epic, homicidal: nor, except perhaps half a dozen, (not mine), are they even poetry. But they divert a busy man to write, and may even have amused a few people to read."

A falling off in the quotation of Bell Telephone stock has been remarked, and the Hartford Courant intimates that it is connected with the unhappy event of Chief Justice Waite's death. It adds that "it testifies to the existence of a doubt (at least) as to the possible consequences of the sudden vacancy on that bench under an administration which has Mr. Garland of Arkansas as its attorney-general. It was the casting vote of the lamented chief-justice that affirmed the validity of Bell's patent against its assailants. Suppose there is now a re-hearing, and the new chief-justice (whoever he may be) and Mr. Justice Lamar (who didn't sit last time) side with the Cleveland-Garland administration and the justices who dissented from the opinion of the court. In that event the minority will become the majority, and the decision in Bell's favor will be reversed."

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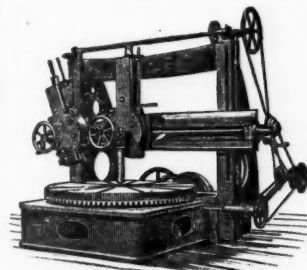
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